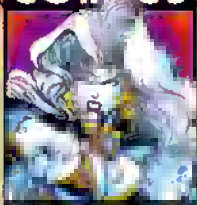


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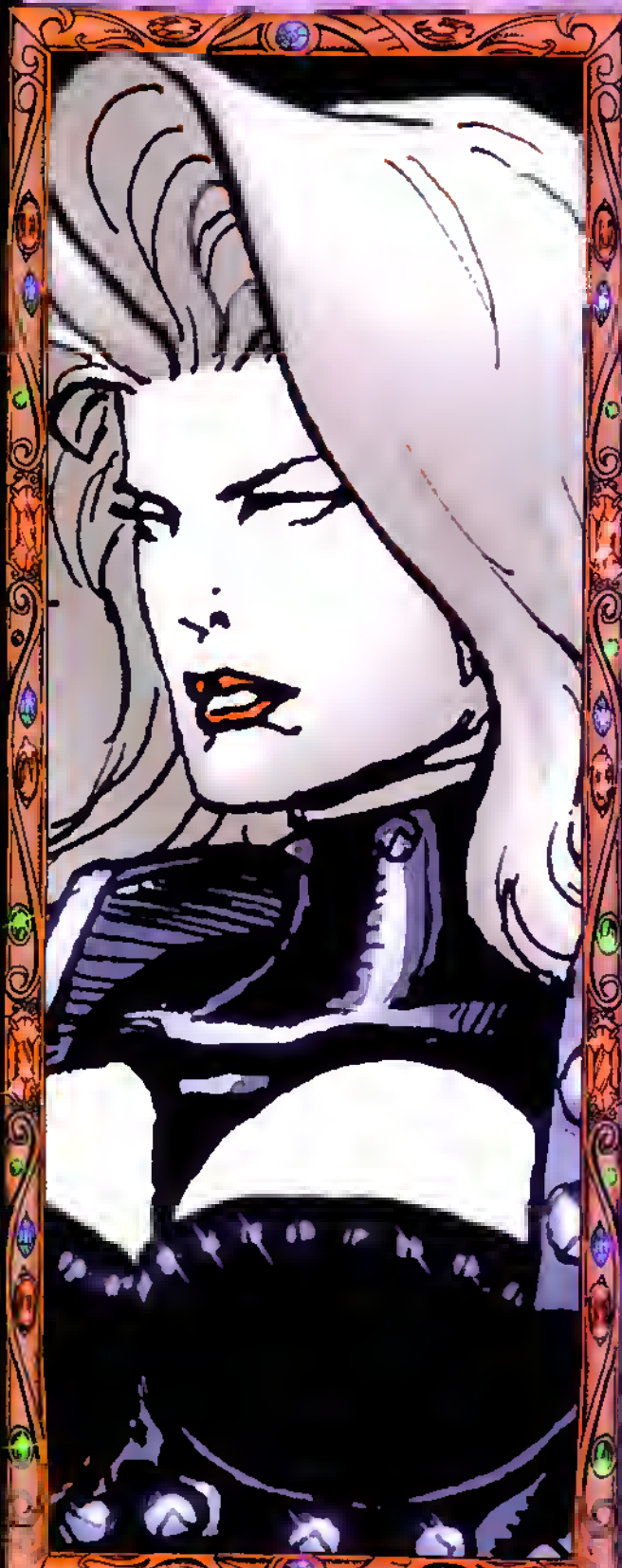
Lady Death®

12 MONTHS
UNTIL THE END



 **evans**

Lady Death



"The Life and Death of Earth" #12

Story So Far

Hell is no more -- all that remains is Lady Death's Endless Graveyard. Though Lady Death had freed herself from her dependence upon the Nightmare sword by banishing it and her manipulative father Matthias into the empty void, she has a much bigger problem: Lord Lucifer has returned. Aware that he possesses the power of creation, the Prince of Lies is hell-bent to recreate the cosmos, his way -- beginning with Lady Death!

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Written by **David Quinn**
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Lady Death Logo **Brian Pulido, Legaretta, Mike Flippin**

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IN HER PRIVATE DEATH BOUDOIR,
WITHIN THE ENDLESS GRAVE-
YARD, LADY DEATH ENDURES
AN UNINVITED VIOLATION --
LUCIFER, THE FATHER OF EVIL,
HAS RETURNED!

LONG AGO, I
CURSED YOU NEVER
RETURN TO EARTH TILL
ALL THE LIVING ARE DEAD!
WHAT HAPPENED TO
MEGADEATH, MY SWEET?
YOUR EMISSARY EVIL ERNIE
HAS SLAIN MERELY
170 MILLION!

EVERY-
THING IN YOUR
EXISTENCE IS
CONFUSING --
HAVE YOU NOTICE
THAT?

YOU WANT
TO GO HOME?
SO BE IT, BUT NOT
BECAUSE YOU
DEMANDED IT. INSTEAD
I SHALL DO IT
FOR MY
PLEASURE!

REMOVE
THE CURSE
BARRING ME
FROM
EARTH!





I AM
NOT YOUR
PLAYTHING!
YOU TALK TOO
MUCH!


HAHAHA!

DO I?
SLURRRPP!
YOU'LL BEG ME
TO TALK TO YOU
SOON! YOUR "HOME"
WILL NOT BE ALL
YOU EXPECT IT
TO BE!

WHAT'S
MORE,
I CAN CREATE --
AND I HAVE BOLD
PLANS FOR YOUR
BELOVED
EARTH.

LUCIFER,
I'M NOT
THROUGH
WITH
YOU!


BUT I
AM THROUGH
WITH YOU --
FOR NOW.



GOOD-BYE, MY MOST PRECIOUS CREATION. YOUR NIGHTMARE HAS JUST BEGUN.

A NEW GAME, WITH NEW RULES!

LUCIFER WILL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS HUMILIATION!



AS LONG AS I AM ARMED WITH THE SCYTHE OF DEATH, I'M READY TO FACE WHATEVER CHALLENGES MAY COME!



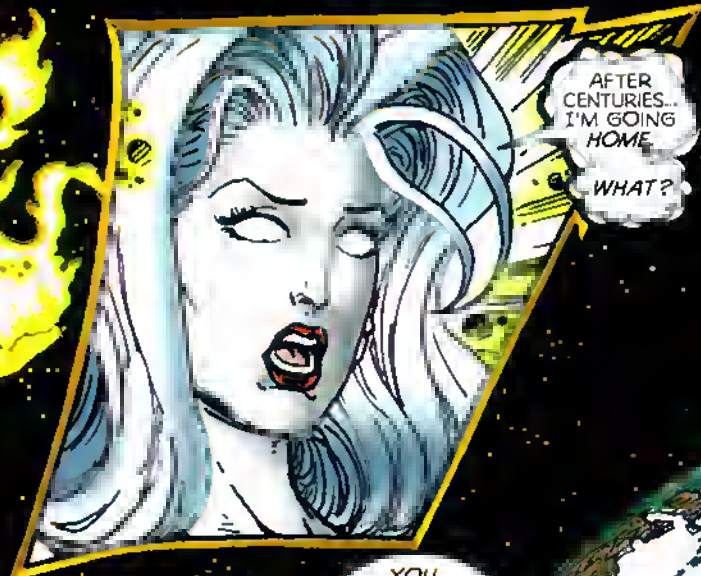
UNNGH!

A MYSTIC BARRIER! THIS ISN'T LUCIFER'S MAGIC -- I RECOGNIZE ITS PRIMAL ENERGY!

IT'S IDENTICAL TO THE SCYTHE'S DEATH FIRE! WHAT'S THAT ON THE OTHER SIDE?



Ohhhh!
LUCIFER
WASN'T LYING!
HE'S SENDING
ME TO
EARTH!
I'M
FREE!



AFTER
CENTURIES...
I'M GOING
HOME
WHAT?

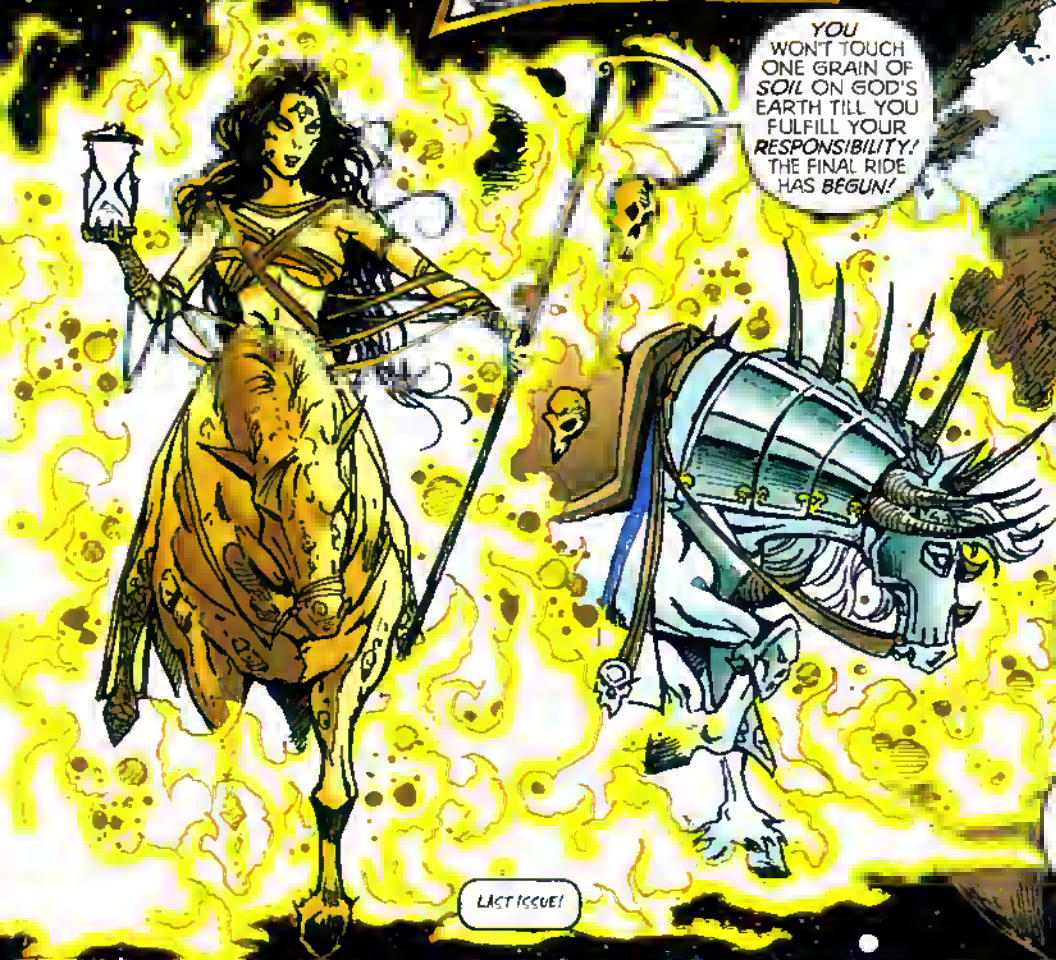


THE
ONLY HOME
YOU HAVE IS
DEATH!

PESTILENCE!

VASSAGO!

I HAD
HOPE MY FIRST
ENCOUNTER WITH
THE RIDERS OF THE
APOCALYPSE WAS
A HALLUCINATION
CAUSED BY MY
SEPARATION FROM
NIGHTMARE! BUT THEY'RE
HERE!

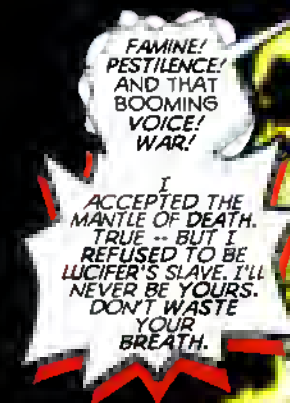


YOU
WON'T TOUCH
ONE GRAIN OF
SOIL ON GOD'S
EARTH TILL YOU
FULFILL YOUR
RESPONSIBILITY!
THE FINAL RIDE
HAS BEGUN!

NO,
PESTILENCE!
LUCIFER'S LITTLE
TOY MUST FIRST
PROVE HERSELF
WORTHY OF THE
SCYTHE OF
DEATH!

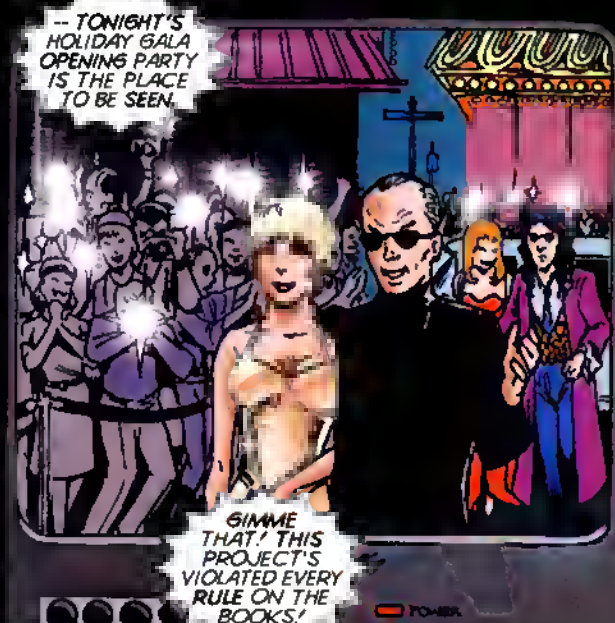
SILENCE,
FAMINE! DEATH
ACCEPTED THE
ETERNAL SCYTHE.
SHE MUST ACCEPT
HER PLACE WITH
US -- THE FINAL
WAR WILL BE
GLORIOUS!

LAST ISSUE!



FAMINE!
PESTILENCE!
AND THAT
BOOMING
VOICE!
WAR!

I
ACCEPTED THE
MANTLE OF DEATH.
TRUE -- BUT I
REFUSED TO BE
LUCIFER'S SLAVE. I'LL
NEVER BE YOURS.
DON'T WASTE
YOUR
BREATH.



HIGH ABOVE EARTH

YOU WON'T LOOK SO SMUG WHEN I HOLD YOUR SKULL AS A TROPHY. PESTILENCE!

YOU THINK A RIDER OF THE APOCALYPSE CAN BE SMASHED WITH BRUTE FORCE. LIKE COMMON HELLSUM?

AAA BOOM BOOM!

WALK THE EARTH AS THE TRUE INCARNATION OF DEATH! RESISTANCE IS RIDICULOUS. YOU'LL SEE!

BEHOLD! YOU ARE NEEDED. HERE IN AFRICA!

THOSE FARMERS SEEK TO QUARANTINE YOUNG JOSEPH.


THE BOY CAME BACK FROM PLAYING IN THE WILD WITH THE BLEEDING SICKNESS.

MAKHAYA! WE CAN'T LET HIM JOIN THE HARVEST FESTIVAL!

BY MY MOTHER'S SOUL HOME. BUT WHERE --

SILENCE! WHAT DO I CARE? THIS IS MY FIRST MOMENT ON EARTH!


Ahhh... YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME I TELL YOU!



WHAT? IS THIS LUCIFER'S SICK JOKE? HAVE I RETURNED TO EARTH -- AS A NIGHTMARE GHOST?

I WANT TO TOUCH THE GROUND!


IF HE REACHES HOME, THE WHOLE VILLAGE WILL DIE!



NO. FOR ONE NIGHT, YOU ARE IN OUR HANDS. YOU CAN'T TOUCH ANYTHING... EXCEPT TO EMBRACE IT, AS DEATH.


THEN I STILL HAVEN'T TRULY RETURNED HOME!

NO ONE TELLS ME WHAT TO DO!



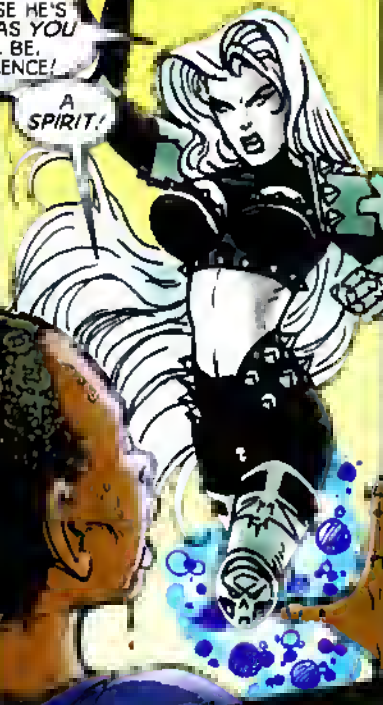
YOU CHOSE. YOURSELF -- YOU PICKED UP THE ETERNAL SCYTHE.


JOSEPH'S BURNING WITH FEVER. HIS VEINS DISINTEGRATE. I'VE DONE MY WORK. NOW HE'S YOURS. TAKE HIM.



OF COURSE HE'S MINE! AS YOU WILL BE, PESTILENCE!

A SPIRIT!





YOU
PROPOSE TO
TEACH ME WHAT
IT MEANS TO BE
DEATH? HERE'S ALL
ANYONE NEEDS TO
KNOW -- DEATH
IS RUTHLESS!

MAKHAYA AND DEMOLA ARE
THE FIRST TO BLEED OUT.
CRUMPLING INTO THE DUST
NEXT TO JOSEPH. THE ENTIRE
VILLAGE OBSERVES THIS
YEAR'S HARVEST BY FALLING
TO THE REAPER KNOWN AS
LADY DEATH!

AAHHHHH!

WE
KNEW YOU HAD
IT IN YOU! BUT TO
BE DEATH, YOU
MUST TAKE EVENTS
LESS PERSONALLY -- OR
YOU'LL MAKE YOUR
EXISTENCE AN
UNDYING
HELL!

I'LL
SHOW YOU
HELL!!



DAMN
YOU
FIGHT
ME!

PESTILENCE
DOES NOT FIGHT
NOR CAN I BE
FOUGHT

IF YOU
WANT ETERNAL
STRUGGLE,
YOU WANT...
WAR!

HOW DO I
GET OUT OF THIS
NIGHTMARE?

WHAT
WOULD OCCUR
IF YOU ENGAGED
WAR IN DIRECT
CONFRONTATION?
YOUR INSTINCT
INFORMS YOU THAT
WOULD BE A
FATAL
MISTAKE!

LADY DEATH COLLIDES WITH WAR, AND SUDDENLY, SHE FINDS HERSELF OVER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, NEAR THE COAST OF FLORIDA.

WHEN I CHOOSE THE TIME AND PLACE, WE WILL FIGHT, WAR.

YOU CAN'T HIDE IT -- YOU'RE ENJOYING THIS!

STRUGGLING ON EARTH IS RE-AWAKENING SENSES YOU FORGOT YOU HAD!

WHAT IS THIS STRANGE VESSEL?

I FIND HUMANS AS PATHETIC AND CONFUSING AS THEY WERE WHEN I LIVED AMONG THEM AS HOPE, FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO. LOOK AT THIS FOOL.

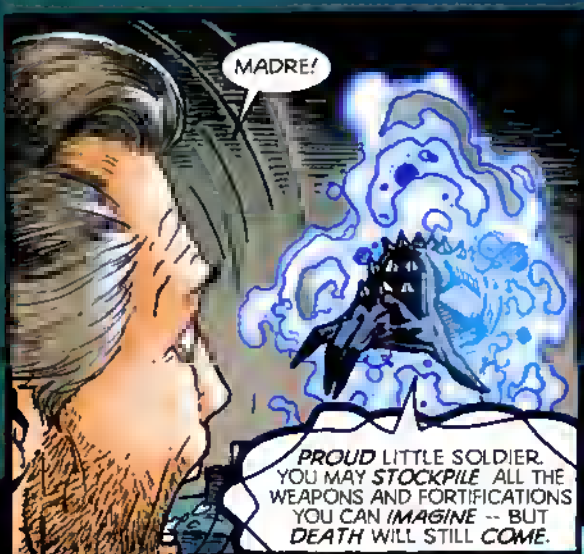
END!

GASOLINE, BOTTLE WATER, LIQUID PROTEING FOOD, GENERATORS, TORCHES, GUNS -- EVERYTHINGS I NEED FOR THE YEAR 2K PARTY!

NO, BETTER GET A FEW HUNDRED MORE ROUNDS.

LAUGH IF YOU WANT, BUT SEE WHO'S BEGGING TO COME ABOARD NEXT DECEMBER 31st. WHEN ARMAGEDDON COMES AND IT'S EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF!

DULL-WITTED MORTAL.



NO! NOT ANOTHER -- HEART ATTACK!

WAR. I AM ABOVE YOUR AGENDA. ALSO -- DEATH IS MORE CERTAIN THAN WAR!





WHERE DEATH IS CONCERNED, EVEN YOU, LADY DEATH, HAVE NO CHOICE.

I CHOSE JUAN'S DEATH! I CHOSE HIS HEART ATTACK!



HOW CAN I FIGHT THIS MADNESS!

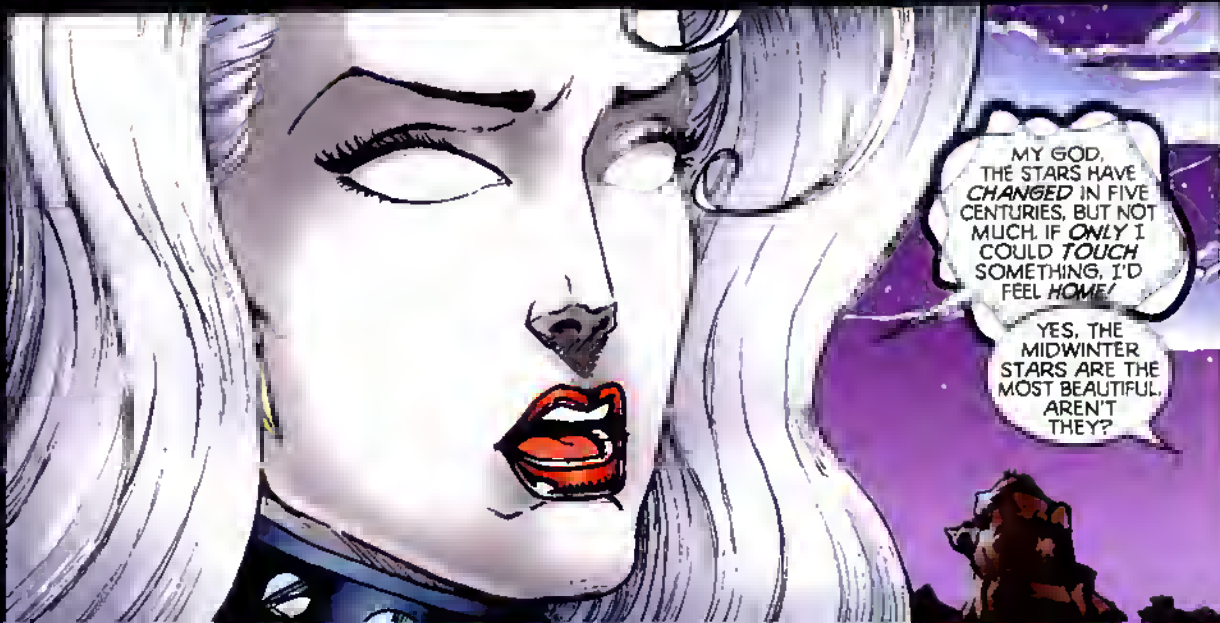
DID YOU? THEN WHY DO YOU PROTEST LIKE A CHILD WHO'S ANGRY AT DEATH ITSELF! YOU ARE DEATH! JOIN US!



GONE! WHERE AM I?

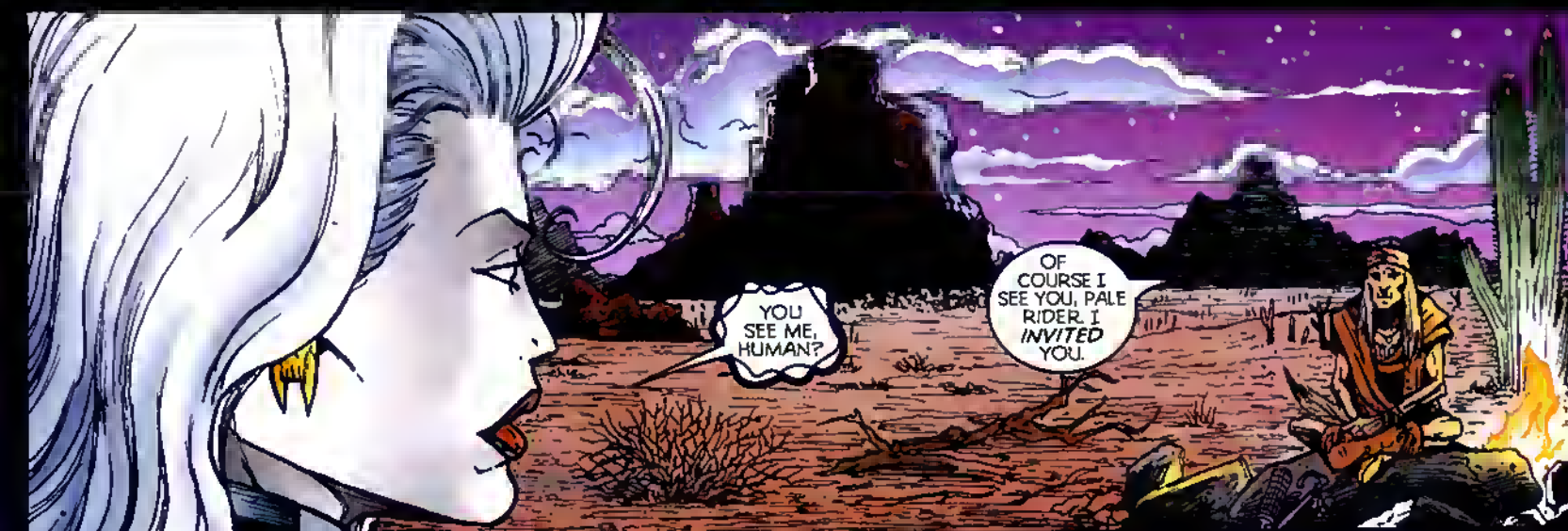
WHAT NOW? IT'S YOUR TURN TO TROUBLE ME, FAMINE, IS IT NOT? LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!

THE ARIZONA DESERT



MY GOD, THE STARS HAVE CHANGED IN FIVE CENTURIES, BUT NOT MUCH. IF ONLY I COULD TOUCH SOMETHING, I'D FEEL HOME!

YES, THE MIDWINTER STARS ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL, AREN'T THEY?



YOU SEE ME, HUMAN?

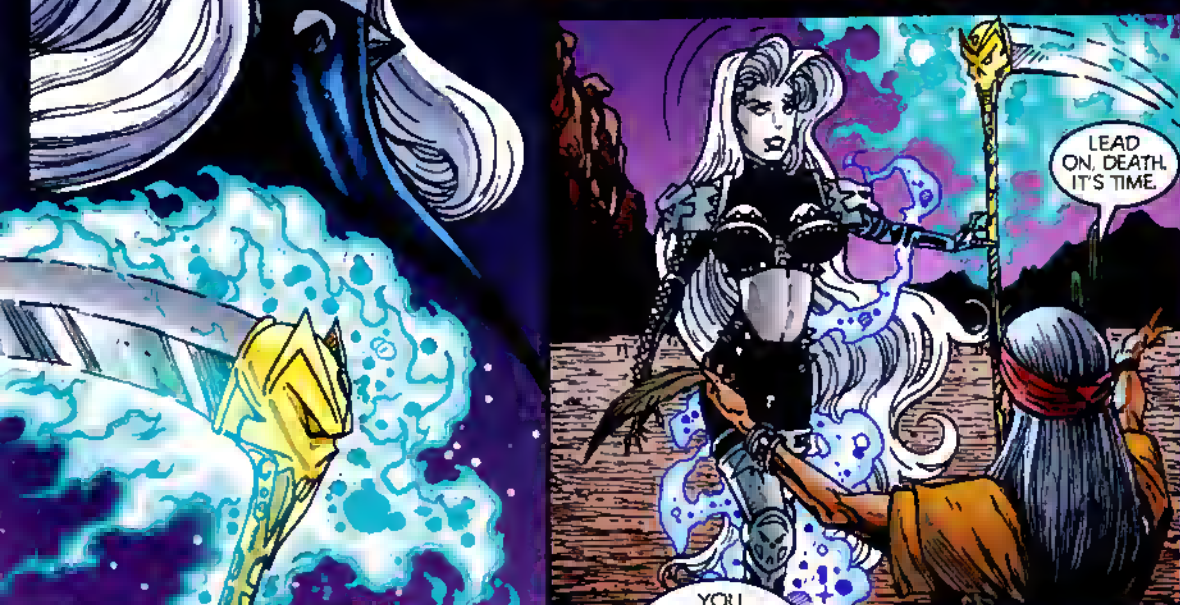
OF COURSE I SEE YOU, PALE RIDER. I INVITED YOU.



NO ONE INVITED ME, OLD MAN!



I'VE SAID GOODBYE TO MY CHILDREN AND MY CHILDREN'S CHILDREN. I TAUGHT THEM WELL. I'M READY TO GO TO LIVE WITH MY ANCESTORS -- CAN YOU THINK OF BETTER STARS TO LIGHT OUR WAY THAN THESE?



LEAD ON, DEATH. IT'S TIME.

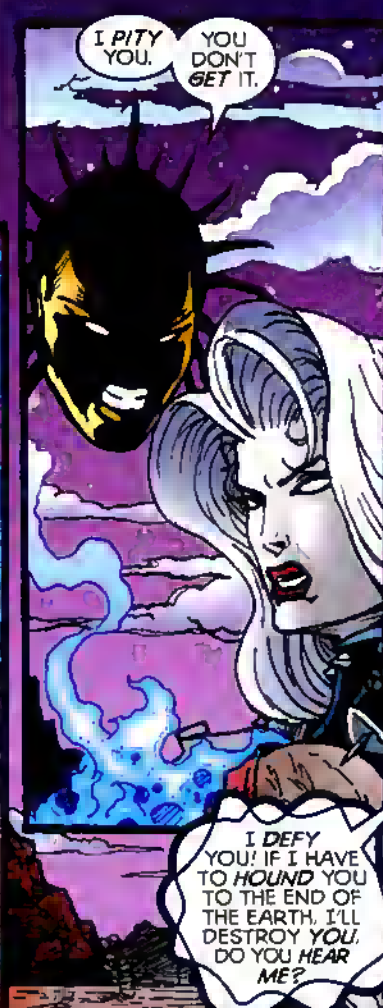


YOU KNOW, YOU ARE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN THE OLD STORYTELLERS SAY. THANK YOU.

"THANK YOU?" WHY WOULD ANYONE BE GRATEFUL FOR DEATH?

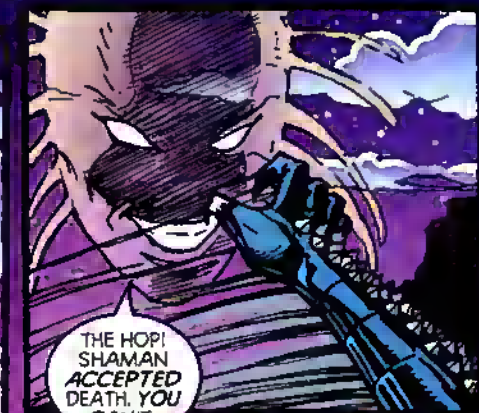


FAMINE!

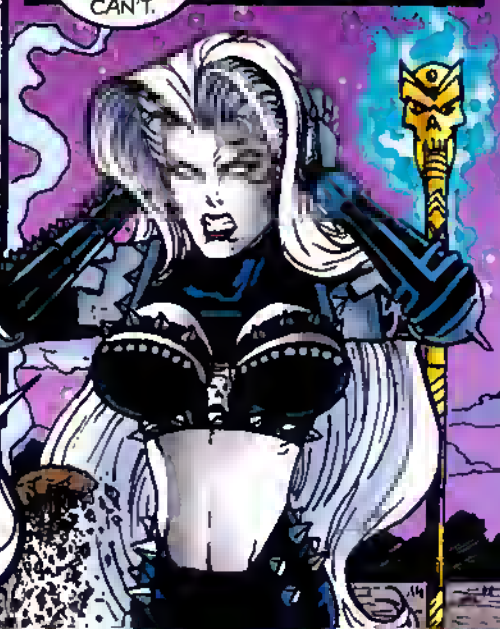


I PITY YOU. YOU DON'T GET IT.

I DEFY YOU! IF I HAVE TO HOUND YOU TO THE END OF THE EARTH, I'LL DESTROY YOU. DO YOU HEAR ME?



THE HOPI SHAMAN ACCEPTED DEATH. YOU CAN'T.



WHERE
AM I NOW?
WHAT IS THIS
PLACE? THIS
ISN'T MY
HOME!

MAN, WHAT A
RUDE WAY
TO SPEND
CHRISTMAS
EVE!

FAMINE!
PESTILENCE!
WAR! END THIS
CHARADE!
FACE ME!

MOVE IT,
AND MAYBE
JANE DOE HERE
WILL LIVE TO SEE
CHRISTMAS!

EXIT

I KNOW,
I'M
MOVIN'!

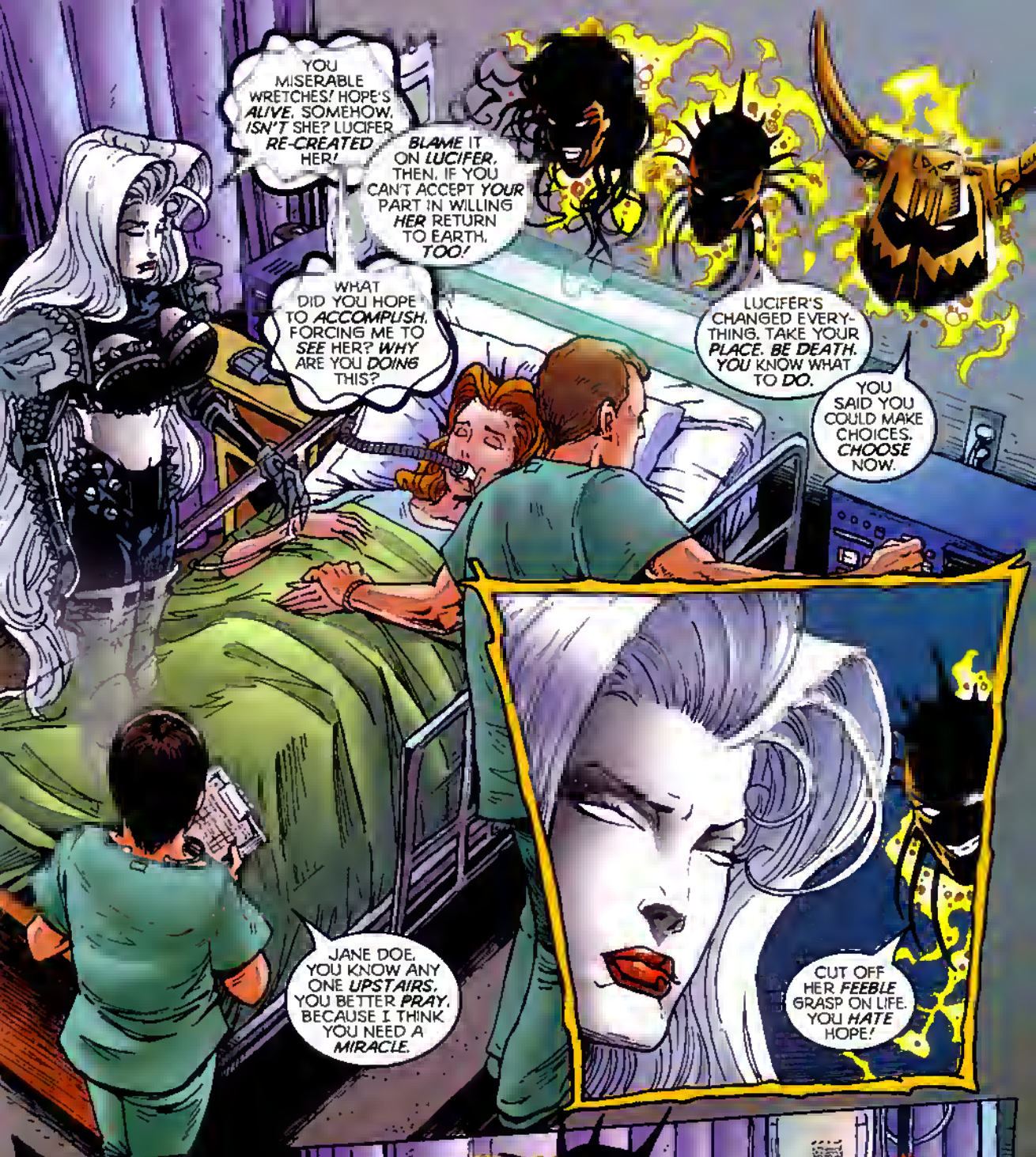
THAT
WOMAN! SHE
LOOKS LIKE --
SHE LOOKS
LIKE HOPE!

BESIDES,
SINCE WHEN
DO YOU HAVE
A LIFE,
O'NEILL?

HA! HAPPY
HANUKKAH TO
YOU, TOO.
GOLDMAN, HOW
ARE HER
VITALS?

STUBBORN.
WE GOT HER IN
TIME, BUT SHE'S IN
SHOCK. COULD
GO EITHER
WAY.

MEEP
MEEP
MEEP



YOU MISERABLE WRETCHES! HOPE'S ALIVE, SOMEHOW. ISN'T SHE? LUCIFER RE-CREATED HER!

BLAME IT ON LUCIFER, THEN, IF YOU CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR PART IN WILLING HER RETURN TO EARTH, TOO!

WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH, FORCING ME TO SEE HER? WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

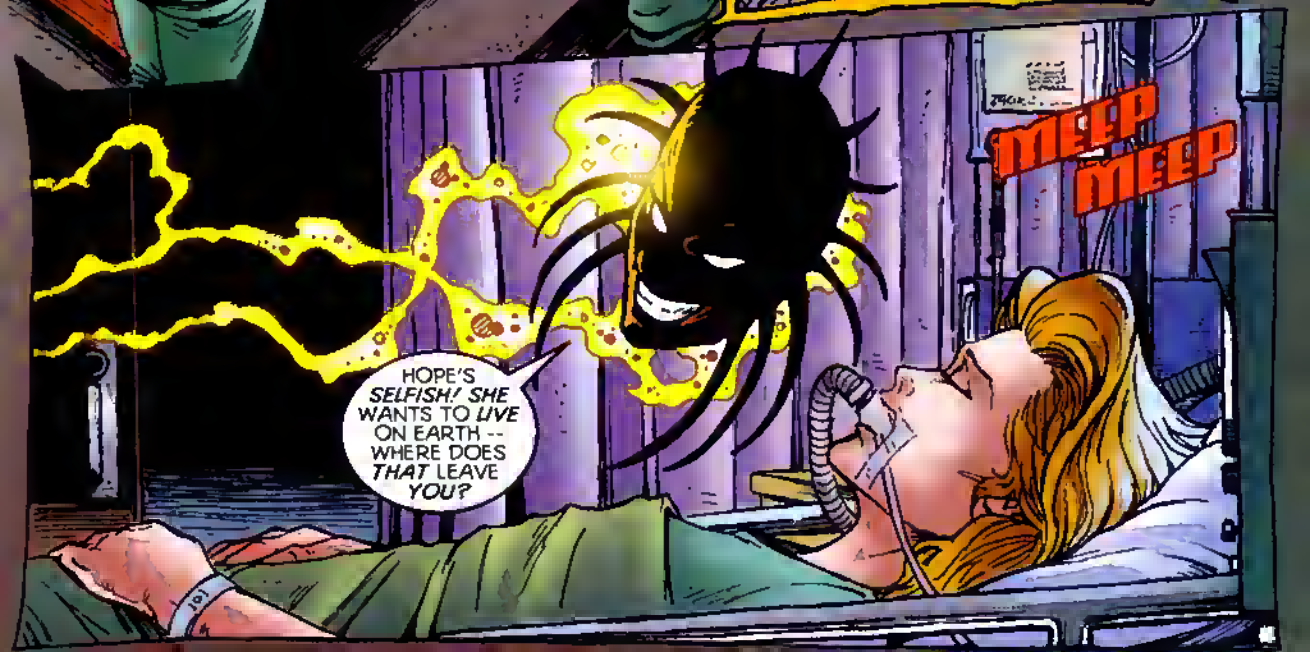
LUCIFER'S CHANGED EVERYTHING. TAKE YOUR PLACE. BE DEATH. YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO.

YOU SAID YOU COULD MAKE CHOICES. CHOOSE NOW.

JANE DOE, YOU KNOW ANY ONE UPSTAIRS. YOU BETTER PRAY, BECAUSE I THINK YOU NEED A MIRACLE.



CUT OFF HER FEEBLE GRASP ON LIFE. YOU HATE HOPE!



HOPE'S SELFISH! SHE WANTS TO LIVE ON EARTH -- WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE YOU?

MEEP MEEP

I WAS HUMILIATED WHEN LEVIATHA CHANGED ME TO HOPE!

IF HOPE LIVES, WILL I EVER BE FREE? CONFUSED!

NO, YOU HAVE FAILED, FAMINE -- I SEE THROUGH YOU.

YOU HAVEN'T DEFEATED US -- YOU'VE ONLY DELAYED THE INEVITABLE!

YOU CHOSE THE WRONG SIDE OF THE FINAL WAR! BECAUSE OF YOU, ARMAGEDDON WILL COME TO EARTH. WE WILL RETURN!

KILL HER -- RIDE WITH US!

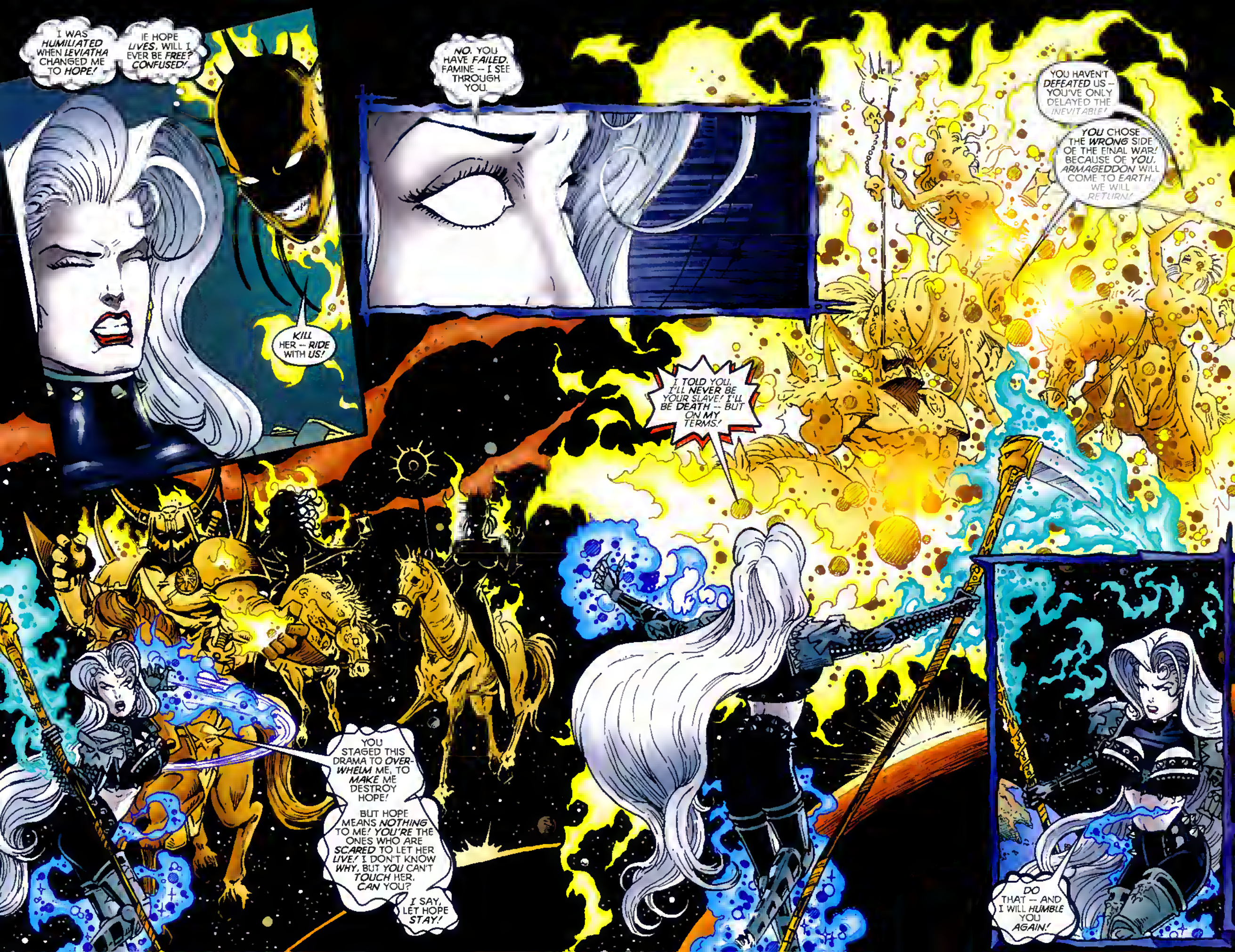
I TOLD YOU, I'LL NEVER BE YOUR SLAVE! I'LL BE DEATH -- BUT ON MY TERMS!

YOU STAGED THIS DRAMA TO OVERWHELM ME, TO MAKE ME DESTROY HOPE!

BUT HOPE MEANS NOTHING TO ME! YOU'RE THE ONES WHO ARE SCARED TO LET HER LIVE! I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT YOU CAN'T TOUCH HER, CAN YOU?

I SAY, LET HOPE STAY!

DO THAT -- AND I WILL HUMBLE YOU AGAIN!





Oh,
YES... I HAD
FORGOTTEN
WHAT
A **SUNRISE**
CAN BE.

JUST
ONE THING
LEFT TO
DO.

LUCIFER!
I KNOW YOU
CAN **HEAR**
ME!

I FOUGHT
HARD TO FIND MY
WAY **HOME!** THE RIDERS
CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY
FROM ME! AND IF YOU TRY,
I WILL HUMILIATE YOU,
TOO! I'M **ABOVE** ALL
YOUR PETTY **GAMES.**
AT LAST!

ST. FRANCIS
HOSPITAL

WOAH!
LOOK! I'D SAY
JANE DOE IS
BACK AMONG
THE LIVING!

~COFF~
~COFF~ NOT
JANE-DOUGH
~COFF~
~COFF~

NAME... IS...
HOPE!

THE INFERNO CASINO
GRAND BALL ROOM, LAS
VEGAS -- THE GRAND
OPENING HOLIDAY GALA!

THAT'S
MR. LOURDE!
HE RUNS THIS
PLACE!

SEXY
DEVIL

ALL I KNOW
IS, HE KNOWS
HOW TO THROW
A PARTEE!

Mr. LOURDE.

Mmmm, A
LITTLE MATTER
OF BUSINESS TO
ATTEND TO, THEN
SANTA WILL
BE BACK TO KISS
YOU UNDER THE
MISTLETOE.

HIS PEOPLE.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS TO
YOU, TOO, JACK!
THOUGH I KNOW
YOU'VE BEEN VERY
VERY BAD THIS
YEAR!

AND HIS VIPS -- DR BEN
HAEL, LAS VEGAS' NEW
MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

ELEMENTS
ARE COMING
INTO CONFLUENCE
SOONER THAN I
CALCULATED BY
CHAOS --

ADAM APPEL,
HEADLINER AT
THE LIMBO
LOUNGE.

Shhh!
WHEN WE LOOK
LIKE THEM, WE
MUST TALK LIKE
THEM, DOC!
WORK THE
CROWD!

GULF WAR HERO
COLONEL MATTHEW
BUKOWSKI, CHIEF
OF SECURITY.

HE
WANTS US,
NOW.

GENTLEMEN, IT'S
TIME. SHE JUST THREW
ONE OF HER SIGNATURE
TANTRUMS TO GET MY
ATTENTION.

SHE'S
COMING.

ALREADY?
I DIDN'T EVEN
HEAR HER
BREATHIN' HARD,
HEH-HEH!

ALL
YOUR SINGS
AGAINST MY OLD
ESTABLISHMENT ARE
FORGIVEN.
IT'S A NEW
GAME.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW
WHERE WE ARE, PRECISELY.
STILL, WE HAVE WORK
TO DO TO PREPARE.

BUT
SAVE YOUR
INSIPID HUMOR
FOR THE PAYING
CUSTOMERS,
FOOL!

WHY ELSE
WOULD I LIFT
THAT OLD CURSE?
EARTH WOULDN'T
BE HELL WITHOUT
HERE!

LADY DEATH
CLAIMS EARTH.
BUT EARTH, SHE WILL
SOON REALIZE, IS NOW
HELL, AND MY INFERNO.
IT'S GLORIOUS
CAPITAL CITY!

HAHAHAHA!

NEXT: THE INFERNO!



The IMPENDING CHAOS! #15

YOUR MONTHLY NEWS SOURCE ON ALL THINGS CHAOS! - DECEMBER '98



From The Crypt

So what's cookin'?

First the big news for me: I am coming back to write Evil Ernie #8 - #10 in a storyline entitled TRAUMA. If you've been keeping up with Evil Ernie storyline recently, you've been served up a heady, psycho thriller storyline by Phil Numan. If you haven't, you are missing something special. These have been some of the finest issues of Evil Ernie. Not one to imitate, I will spin the Evil Ernie story on it's axis and tell a simple tale of terror and horror, and ultimately ultra-violence. My take on the evil one is that he's an instinctual, super predator; cunning, silent, lethal and dangerous on a grand scale. Don't expect a lot of jokes in this story. This is pure horror.

I've gone back to basics recently and am studying horror-fiction and fantasy-fiction. I'm watching tons of movies and reading critical analysis on the subject. Among the compelling components of a good horror story is one I find particularly of value: claustrophobia. TRAUMA takes place in a giant black building, outside of zombie infested Kingman, Indiana where a desperate group of survivors fight against time to perfect a virus that stops the undead. Unfortunately for them, something EVIL gets inside the building.

I must admit, it's nice to be back in the saddle with my finger on the trigger. Evil Ernie #8 starts in January 1999. It's warming me up rather nicely as I write the Evil Ernie screenplay. The next few years look quite bright for our dark psychotic. I can feel it already, soon the world will truly know EVIL.

Join me for the ride, won't you?

STTB,

 - Brian Pulido

PS - I want to send a happy holiday greetings to our dedicated and loyal readership. Thank you for your patronage! 1999 will be a terrific year for Chaos! featuring back to basic storylines with terrific art & color, more cool merchandise goodies than you can shake a stick at and several steps in our insidious plans for world domination. Stay evil and have a safe new year, fiends!

The Low Down Ernie Changes!

Okay Fiends, it's with some deep regret that we have to inform you that the upcoming Evil Ernie arc that was going to be written by Hart Fisher in Evil Ernie #8-#10 ain't gonna happen. Nothing serious - it's all amiable-like between Hart and us (and we're not saying that because he knows where we all live and wouldn't hesitate to kill us in our sleep). Could Ernie go writer-less for months? Not a chance! Evil Ernie creator and screenwriter, Brian Pulido, who was scheduled to come onto the book right after Hart's run, decided to jump start his Ernie plans with the three-part "Trauma" storyline that promises to present Ernie at his goriest best in years!

The story kicks off in Evil Ernie #8 when we find Sarah Cross and her rag-tag group of survivors racing to perfect a virus which promises to do what no one has yet been able to - utterly eradicate the undead. Sensing the danger, the living dead won't go near the building, however, something unimaginably evil is already inside, and his first name is Evil. Will humanity's brightest and very possibly last hope be snuffed by the cat and mouse hunting of Evil Ernie? You're gonna have to read this one to find out folks! We're telling it to you straight Fiends, this is going to be the Ernie storyline that people are going to be talking about early next year - consider the sheer coolness factor that Brian is writing this Ernie arc at the same time he's writing the Ernie movie, and you've got to figure we're talking wide-screen, full-blown story here. By looking at events from Sarah's eyes, we're going to once again witness the horror that is Ernie as zombies, confined spaces and a climactic scene in a slaughterhouse all combine for a story that'll blow you away! Brian himself is coming back to his beloved Ernie to get the guy back on to his horrific track and return him to what made us all love him in the first place - chaos and terror in mega-sized servings! Miss it, and we'll send Ernie to your

house! Remember dear Fiends, tell your retailer you want to nab these books - we're printing to order, so that means no order book, no get book. Don't be a schlub - order the entire arc today!

Smiley goes Hollywood!

So you thought we couldn't outdo ourselves with the first Smiley Special, and December's Smiley And-Holiday Special, right? Wrong! Through a special arrangement with their therapists, we were able to reassemble the Smiley team one more time for "Smiley: The Psychotic Button Movie Special."

This time around, Smiley has enchanted one Carl Witherspoon, a man who has been betrayed by all of those close to him. How does this all de in to the title, which promises a big-budget Smiley movie? You're going to have to buy the issue to find out, but you can bet the tale will be filled with chaos and mayhem, Smiley style! Along with having one of the longest names that we could come up with, the special is written by Jesse McCann, the same demented mind that brought you the first Smiley the Psychotic Button Special, pencilled by Ed Benes, and colored by Jason Jensen.

And Speaking of Hollywood!

Chaos! dignitaries Adam Goldfine and Brian Pulido recently were in the Big Apple ("Hollywood East" to those showbiz types) attending the "Night of 1000 Scars" - the world premiere and party for "Dee Snyder's Strangeland." It was a night neither will soon forget.

"We saw some incredibly cool stuff," Goldfine says. "Probably the most bizarre was the three modern primitives who were suspended in a human mobile by flesh hooks in their backs. They spun in the air as the mobile twisted. We also saw a guy who pounded a screwdriver into his face right in front of us. All in all, we had a great time with this huge crowd of the friendliest people you could ever care to meet who were way into tattooing and body piercing and everything else. It was a great party and an

incredible way to launch *Strangeland*."

By the way, if you want to check out the screwdriver in the face guy, head on over to www.members.aol.com/spidergod5. As always, let 'em know Chaos! sent you!

A Chaotic February!

So you already know that February will be Dark Hearts month here at Chaos, right? Well let us tell you dear Fiends, the Lady Death/Vampirella crossover is just the tip of the monstrous iceberg!

February 1999 also marks Lady Death's 5-year anniversary as the comics' #1 horrific heroine. In honor of the milestone, Lady Death #14, titled, "Lady Death: The Adversary," will carry a special trade dress and will feature the return of a powerful and mysterious warrior. This special stand-alone issue follows right on the heels of "The Inferno" storyline, and will be written by David Quinn with pencils by Brazilian artistic legend, Mike Deodato Jr.

Purgatori Vs. Jade!

Not to be outdone by her 5th anniversary-celebrating nemesis, Lady Death, Purgatori's got a battle to beat all in Purgatori #6 this February. When Purgatori came back to this mortal realm, she knew she'd left some bitter enemies behind - now it's time to face one of the deadliest - Jade, the sultry, exotic sorceress who wants nothing more than to see ol' Purgs rot in Hell for eternity. This special self-contained story also guest-stars Dracula and promises to rock the vampire queen's world forever! Miss it not! By David Quinn and Al Rio.

Have a Chaos! Christmas!

We've called all around, and can guarantee that all Chaos trade paperbacks are in good supply across these 50 states and around the world. What does that mean, you ask? It means your Christmas list is almost already complete dear Fiend! Not only do Chaos! trade paperbacks make great gifts to

receive, they also are terrific gifts to give to those folks who love horror, and have yet to have their first Chaos! experience. Your local retailer should be able to order what he doesn't have on display, so start that Christmas shopping now!

Chaos Watch: Cryptic Writings of Megadeth TPB!

If you missed it when it originally shipped, here's your chance to catch up on one of the coolest rock/comic crossovers since Marvel's Alice Cooper special back in the '70s. The original Cryptic Writings of Megadeth miniseries rocked the comics world when it shipped a few months back, and now we're gearing up to release the entire mini as a way-cool trade paperback. What could be a cooler gift for you or a friend who's a Megadeth fan, but yet to experience the subtle beauty and enjoyment of Chaos! Comics? Do us proud dear Fiend - go on out there and ask your local retailer to reserve you a copy of the book that will surely be one of the most sought after collections of the year.

Also, as an added bonus, look for the trade paperback version of Cryptic Writings to include some added bonuses - we're not sure what just yet, but rest assured, it's going to be great! Hey, 'added value' is our middle name.

Seven Inches of Death

Always wanted one of those ultra-cool, ultra-rare Moore Creations Lady Death statues but missed the chance to get one? Fear not, dear Fiend - you're going to get one more shot. Those wonderful wacky, Chaos-loving folks at Moore Creations are busy at work preparing a seven-inch version of the classic statue for an upcoming release at a very affordable price. We've seen the preliminary sculpt, and we can sum it up in one word - wow! It's one of the coolest mini statues we've ever seen! Stay tuned for more information on this collectible that you'll definitely want to add to your Chaotic collection.

The Chaos! To Come Checklist

Enjoy life. Read comics more often! After all, who among us can get through the week without a certain amount of Chaos!? Be the first on your block to own the complete set of Chaos! Comics.

December '98

- Purgatori #4 \$2.95
- Lady Death #12 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #7 \$2.95
- Cremator #2 (OF 5) \$2.95
- Chastity: Rocked #3 (OF 4) \$2.95
- Smiley X-Mas \$2.95

January '99

- Purgatori #5 \$2.95
- Lady Death #13 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #8 \$2.95
- Cremator #3 (OF 5) \$2.95
- Chastity: Rocked #4 (OF 4) \$2.95

February '99

- Purgatori #6 \$2.95
- Lady Death #14 \$2.95
- Evil Ernie #9 \$2.95
- Cremator #4 (OF 5) \$2.95
- Smiley's Movie Special \$2.95

FIEND ALERT

Notice Chaos! Comics selling out quickly? Want your Chaos! comics? **LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!** Pre-order Chaos! Comics at your local comic shop - or ask them to reserve you copies! New Policy - We print to order. No over runs. **DON'T MISS OUT!**

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Last Writes

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Good evening. David Quinn here, responding to you! Brian Pulido asked for your thoughtful, heartfelt, and challenging letters -- a few daring souls were up for it. We still want to hear from more of you! The Nightmare of the Nightmare Sword is over. Lady Death has returned to her dark, wicked ways. She's even had an advance taste of what it might be like to return to Earth. Hell has fallen. The Inferno has risen. And what's on your mind? In the meantime, your letters on previous issues of Lady Death:

DEAR CHAOS!

I've always considered Chaos! to be #1. Lady Death has been my favorite comic book character for a while now. I thought The Odyssey ruled, that The Crucible kicked ass, and that the ongoing series was amazing; #8 & 9 totally blew me away. The artwork was some of the best I've ever seen and the storyline was fast paced and intense. But then came Goddess War. Never have I read such crap! That was the worst storyline I've ever read. I don't care if it was a turning point in the Chaos! Cosmos or Lady Death's character. It was impossible to follow, it had a terrible story, and where exactly was this Goddess War you've been building up for all these months. Words can not describe what a bad idea Transdemonium was.

I just read Lady Death #11, and it was still not the standard for which I have come to rely on Chaos!. I know it's this whole Armageddon thing, but at least make it interesting to some degree. I confess that I've started looking to other companies for an entertaining read. I only hope that Evil Ernie and Lady Death (especially) will pick up and become my favorite characters again.

From one losing faith,
Michael Paes

If you lose faith, Michael, you'll miss Lady Death's return to Earth next issue! It's not a dream. It's not a manipulation of Lucifer or the Riders of the Apocalypse. The Diva of Death touches the soil of her medieval village home, now the heart of industrial Germany!

Brian Pulido and I got your request to make Lady Death's stories easier to read, too. Finding our way into monthly publishing, we know we went wild challenging Lady Death from all sides with Angelic Assassins, her father Matthias, her possessed sword Nightmare, the sorceress Leviatha, and even her human side Hope. Now, Hell's Executioner Goddess has dealt with her cursed history. History is

part of her character, but we're reducing the complexity.

Sorry you didn't appreciate Goddess War, the two-part story I wrote for Purgatori 2 and 3. If I had it to do over, I would re-design it. It was intended to be the first of two clashes between Lady Death and her arch-enemy, vampire Purgatori, Brian and I, and all of our artist, are consistently trying to improve our storytelling, and we learned a lesson with Goddess War: if you're going to do two fights, skip the first one -- go straight for the killer climax of the second. Michael, you can take it as a promise from me, that's what I'll do from now on. I'm glad, however, that you found issues 8 and 9 "intense" and "fast-paced"! The next four months will give you all that -- and more.

DEAR LADY DEATH TEAM:

I have to say I haven't been very impressed by the last few issues of Lady Death. Many new characters were introduced, the story was confusing, and the art changed. The whole Lady Death / Hope arc left me very confused. Weren't Hope and Lady Death the same individual? Lady Death is simply Hope with powers from Hell. Yet, the last few issues, you seem to suggest that they were two entities. Please clear this up for me.

That brings me to Lady Death #8. The first time I saw the cover, I knew this issue had to kick ass, and it did. I was happy to see Lady Death again, not just her human side. I'm also relieved to see a darker tone coming back to the book -- the colors were breathtaking. And Donato did a great job. I especially like when he draws Lady Death "in my face" like on page 1 and 3.

Big fan since day one,
Gabriel Laverdiere

Chaos! readers were not expecting the mystery of human Hope in Lady Death: The Harrowing. What if I told you Lady Death will resolve Hope's story -- forever -- within the next story arc? I sat down

with Brian the day after we completed a screen writing class together; jazzed by what we'd learned, we declared a very specific role for Hope in Lady Death's saga. It's not like anything you've seen in these pages before. It's not anything we could have seen back in Lady Death #4. And I can't tell you what it is -- but we think you'll dig it. Gabriel, here's a clue: you commended us on the return to a "darker tone"? That's where we're going.

Till Armageddon,

David Quinn



Next Issue:

The Inferno (Part 1 of 4) - A new era kicks off with the triumphant return of the heart-stopping Goddess of Death to Earth where she must clash with the other Three Riders of the Apocalypse -- and what is the secret of Mr. Lourde's Inferno? David Quinn is joined by fan favorite artist Mike Deorlato Jr.!